(f) whether it is a fact that some handful of favourite manufacturers were only favoured for inclusion of products and others who also fulfilled the criteria were ignored: and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM): (a) to (c) Proprietary items are purchased either from manufacturers of sole distributors. Besides, selective tendering is resorted to for items costing less than Rs. 2 lakhs and public tender for items costing more than Rs. 2 lakhs.

(d) The number varies from year to year depending upon the successful bidder.

(e) Only such applications are rejected which do not fulfil the pre-tendering qualifications laid down in the Tender Notice.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

Abolition of Fee Levied on Government Pensioners for Medical Treatement by CGHS

1918. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will contemplate of abolishing the fees levied on the Government pensioners for their medical treatment by the CGHS Directorate as a step towards helping the senior citizens of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when Government will take the necessary action in this regard for exposing the cause of social welfare?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (c) The rate of contribution being charged from the Central Government pensioners is nominal. It far from covers the cost of modern medical facilities/techniques being made available to them for their medical care under CGHS. The cost of such care is increasing over the years. Therefore, there is no such proposal for the present.

Projects of DD and AIR Stations taken up and Completed in Bihar during 8th Plan

1919. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects pertaining to Doordarshan and AIR stations taken up and completed in Bihar during the current Five Year Plan; and

(b) the amount of expenditure likely to be incurred on the completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM): (a) All India Radio had taken up 8 projects, of which 5 have been commissioned. Doordarshan has commissioned 9 LPTs for DD I. 1 LPT for DD II and 3 Studios. 12 LPTs. 2 VLPTs and 1 Studio in respect of Doordarshan are under implementation in the state of Bihar.

(b) An amount of approximately Rs. 26.30 crores and Rs. 46 crores is expected to be incurred on the schemes of All India Radio and Doordarshan, respectively.

Sucess of Family Welfare Programmes in Containing the Growth rate of Population

1920. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent the Family Welfare Programme has been successful in containing the growth rate of population;

(b) what has been the results in so far as States like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa are concerned; and